

J. M. J.

January 4, 1946.

Res. Father Glayana Ellsworth:

Res. dear Father: I just sent you a telegram announcing my dear mother's death this morning. I was called to her bedside last night and found her on a coma - she did not regain consciousness at all. She died a most beautiful and holy death. Two Masses had been offered for her - one at St. Jude's and one here at St. Louis. Father came to see her and then went to offer Mass for her. He returned just in time to be with me for

your prayers and your
blessing. I remain

Devotely in Him

Santi Mary Dolores

SBC M

J. M. J.

O. L. A.

Monteno, Ill.

Jan. 26, 1946.

My dear Spiritual Father:

I have long intended writing you, but time has been wanting and when time was at hand I wasn't in the mood. Today, I will at last begin as I am on duty at the office - The two office sisters are ailing otherwise I'd be elsewhere.

First - let me thank for your great charity in writing to me so promptly. It helped me more than you can ever realize - and it was your letter that proved the forceful strong-hold for preventing me from asking for a change. Just as I was about to write to you I had another breath-taking experience, and I think had I not just previously written to Rev. Mother my difficulties and determination to stay on for so long as it please God - I could not have withstood this last onslaught - or call it what you may. I told her I would not ask to be relieved of my duties, costly as they are, but trusted her

to know that should she think
it advisable to feel free, and that
she should not wait for a
request from me. The latest
accusation is that I am cutting,
and merciless and crushing - that
I have a ugly, slashing tongue
and that I sit at table and
sneer at the sisters - she criticized
my position, my speech, even
taking upon herself the privilege
of censoring my writings which
she claims to know, and then
after citing this and other cutting
remarks she terminated by
acclaiming herself the spokesman
of the community's opinion. I

frankly believe her words were
a self-justification and a manifesta-
tion of her jealousy and maybe
I shouldn't say this, but it seemed
to be like a real diabolical,
hated. For support for her
remarks she used the words
of some sisters to her when

they spoke to be in a more
or less disturbed state. I feel
that many of her remarks were
unfounded and untrue and I
am not disturbed by them, but
I was very much hurt and
the sting of her words pursue
me especially every time I
must appear before my sisters
particularly when I must speak.
It is like being in a crowd
that resents your very presence.
Sister apologized but her actions
and speech with the sting of her
words pursue me until I wish
I could be where men would.

neither see nor hear me, and yet
with all this I must remain, and
I do naught but try to forget
creatures and let myself be
heard as little as possible. Self
must die if it is the will is to
be wholly immersed in God. I

have tried to please men
while striving to keep faithful
to Him - but I fear my striving
~~have~~ ^{after} been leaning more toward
creatures than God. I realize
now fully that even the best
of us are as the worst - that
man is full of self-seeking
and self-love - that as Father
Leun says: "Self dies hard." Man
is inconsistent and weak, and
the greatest of efforts are mis-
interpreted and bring naught
but confusion and difficulty
with dissatisfaction. There is
one alone we can always be
sure of pleasing if our motive
is good and that is God -
Who alone sees all and knows
all. I have determined that
hereafter I am going straight
to God and doing what to me

is His viewpoint without other
consideration. There is no
security but in God - in Him
and His holy and immaculate
Mother do I repose all my
trust and confidence. To them
I look for the strength and
courage to carry on. It
seems to me Satan would
drive me out of here although
I see no reason for this
since my presence here does
no good - maybe he thinks me
responsible for good which I
have no part in, I do not
know. For Christ on the cross
there was no comfort, so I
should not expect or complain
if I have none.

You suggested that I should
take or ask for a rest away from

my consent. This is not done in
our Community unless a doctor
would order and no one except
perhaps a psychiatrist would
order it for me. Physically I am
fine - my fatigued condition is
better and I believe my mind
better. Although I was so filled
up the night after this last
difficulty I had to leave the
table to hide my tears because
I couldn't master them. I
cleared out before they saw, I
think. The sisters did not
know of the difficulty since it
was in private. I feel that
many of my troubles are due
to my great obsession with
self and not with God - and too
much dependance on human efforts
and not enough on God - A
want of submission to God in
the difficulties He ordains or

is His viewpoint without other
consideration. There is no
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Mother do I repose all my
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You suggested that I should
take or ask for a rest away from

permits - my desire to accomplish
good among souls - and discouragement
because of my want of
success. I feel so helpless and
hopeless and yet I feel a
great trust in God and His
Father whom I love dearly. I
have been reading (with considerable
facility) The City of God. The Incarnation
and have taken courage from
the beautiful attitude and endurance
of our Blessed Lady and her Son
as cited in this book. God has
been good to give me this
facility for reading ~~with understanding~~
at this time. It is the first
book I have been able to read
with facility for a very long time.

If this letter sounds like I am
down deep in discouragement, I want
to assure you that I am not -
and I determined that if Satan has
anything to do with any difficulties
he can go straight down to his own destruction.

little den — hell before I yield to
discouragement and clear out for him.
With the grace of God I can and
will go on for so long as it please
God. Keep up your holy prayers
for me. especially the Holy Mass
offering and I shall continue to
strive to keep faithful in my daily
self immolation to Him. I have
redoubled my vigilance over self —
my actions, thoughts and words but
in the moment only without undue
scrutinizing lest I again get into
a disturbed state of soul. I leave
it to Him to show me those
things wherein I am wanting and
unfaithful. God be with you always
please beseech Him to make me
more zealous, courageous and
generous — He is so far from me
and I long to be so near. Pray for
my needy soul and those Confided to me.
and in my sufferings you have a
large share of merit. Prayers fully.

J. Mary of the Precious
Blood

there is no need trying to evade -
I have sought an outlet but there
is none except outside God and I
want Him more than anything else.

How are your boys - your work -
I heard a couple days ago Father
Schneider was in a serious accident
I hope he is improving and won't
be ill too long unless - maybe
it would be good for him - some-
times sickness is good just as
other trials are if we have the
right attitude. Father Boggins, the
priest who gives our monthly
conferences was telling us about
your lass at St Francis in
Chicago. God surely loves you
doesn't He?

Be assured of our prayers.
I enclose some Mass stipends
for a priest who helped our sisters
in France - a real Angel of God's
Providence and love. He is discharged
now with title of Captain.
Respectfully,
A. May

P.S. I forgot to mention to you that
I am likewise reading and ~~usually~~ ^{using}
occasionally for my morning
meditation "Journey in the Night"
by Bruce - an explanation of the
doctrines of St. John of the Cross.
I think it is good and it
has helped me at the intervals
when I have used it. - He
says: "In order to have pleasure in
everything, desire to have pleasure
in nothing." Sufferings and the
Cross are hard and forbidding
to me now where before it was
a joy to suffer for Him - I hope
some day God will change me
and like the saints that I will
love and embrace sufferings for
Him. Now I am constantly tempted
to run from it all - but when I
look about there is no place and
no person that holds attraction so

there is no need trying to evade -
I have sought an outlet but there
is none except outside God and I
want Him more than anything else.

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Respectfully,
A. Hony